

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, and 14, and add new Claims 17 and 18 as follows.

1. (Twice Amended) In a computerized patient records system operated for a healthcare institution which maintains written clinical guidelines, a method of operating active guidelines comprising the steps of

a) on a guidelines server, maintaining the clinical guidelines and also maintaining, associated with the clinical guidelines, active guideline tags containing codes for actions to be taken by the computerized patient records system;

b) at the station of a user, operating an active guidelines viewer in communication with the guidelines server, the active guidelines viewer including a web browser, ~~and an~~ active guidelines interpreter and a URL router,

B¹ i) the active guidelines interpreter receiving the active guidelines tags and converting the active guideline into a hyperlink with a uniform resource locator (URL) and passing the URL to the web browser and the URL router,

ii) the web browser receiving and displaying at least a single clinical guideline the URL received from the active guidelines server interpreter while the active guidelines interpreter processes the active guideline tag associated with the single clinical guideline to present a hyperlink for the user representing the active guideline; and

c) when the user accepts the single clinical guideline by invoking the hyperlink, the URL router intercepting the hyperlink for active guidelines URLs and creating an action item from the active guideline tag to be sent to the computerized patient records system for implementation, the action item being processed by the computerized patient record system to create an order.

2. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the order in step (c) is issuing a prescription.

3. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the order in step (c) is for a procedure to be performed.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the station of the user communicates

with the active guidelines server over the internet.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the station of the user communicates with the active guidelines server over the internet.

6-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously added, currently amended) In a multiple server computer system to operate an electronic medical records software system and order entry in a healthcare institution, a method comprising the steps of

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a) providing an active guidelines server, the active guidelines server maintaining a set of clinical guidelines and a set of active guidelines tags, each of the active guidelines tags being associated with at least one of the clinical guidelines and including codes for orders to be ordered;

b) providing a workstation at the location of a clinician, the workstation operating an active guidelines viewer, the active guidelines viewer including a web browser, ~~and an active guidelines interpreter and a URL router, the active guidelines interpreter converting the active guidelines tags into a hyperlink with a uniform resource locator (URL),~~ the web browser displaying for the clinician the hyperlink associated with the clinical guidelines ~~and the active guidelines interpreter processing the active guidelines tags to present to the clinician hyperlinks assigned to the active guidelines tags;~~ and

c) when the clinician chooses a hyperlink presented by the web browser ~~active guidelines interpreter~~, the URL router intercepting the hyperlink and, if the hyperlink is for an active guidelines order, ~~active guidelines interpreter~~ sending a communication to the electronic medical records software system to cause an order to be entered.

15. (Previously added) The method of claim 14 wherein the order in step (c) is issuing a prescription.

16. (Previously added) The method of claim 15 wherein the order in step (c) is for a procedure to be performed.

17. (New) In a multiple server computer system to operate an electronic medical records software system and order entry in a healthcare institution, a method comprising the steps of

a) providing an active guidelines server, the active guidelines server maintaining a set of clinical guidelines and a set of active guidelines tags, each of the active guidelines tags being associated with at least one of the clinical guidelines and including codes for orders to be implemented by an electronic medical records system;

B² b) providing a workstation at the location of a clinician, the workstation operating an active guidelines viewer, the active guidelines viewer including a web browser, an active guidelines interpreter and a URL router, the active guidelines interpreter and the URL router together both storing the codes for orders and providing input to and monitoring output of the web browser, the active guidelines interpreter converting the active guidelines tags into a hyperlink with a uniform resource locator (URL) for the web browser, the web browser displaying for the clinician the hyperlink associated with the clinical guideline; and

c) when the clinician chooses a hyperlink presented by the web browser, the URL router intercepting the hyperlink and, if the hyperlink is for an active guidelines order, sending a communication to the electronic medical records software system containing the stored order to cause an order to be entered.

18. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein the sending of the communication to the electronic medical records software system includes sending the communication to an accumulator which accumulates communications for delivery to the electronic medical records software system.